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By WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN

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There are a number of movements for the benefit of St. Louis in which I have been deeply interested and for which I have worked. I have also given much time to the larger work of our denomination in the Synod of Missouri. In both the interdenominational work of the city and the work of our Church in the State I have made many warm personal friends.

Upon the announcement of my call to Huntington, I was entreated by men and women in all walks of life, and advised by pastors throughout the Synod, by pastors of other denominations in the city and leaders of various organizations, not to leave St. Louis.

But after much thought and earnest prayer, I have been led to accept your call, believing it to be the call of God and trusting that future events may justify my decision.

I have decided to accept your call for the following and other reasons:

First. Your call was unsought, unanimous and repeatedly given. This I hold to be of vital significance. It warrants me in believing that I shall find in you a united people, loyally and enthusiastically supporting me in an aggressive and progressive work at home and abroad.

Second. From the information that I have received from various sources, your church seems to offer ample scope for the variety and breadth of Christian activities in which I believe and am committed without reserve.

Third. My experience in mission and evangelistic work in the Ap-

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palachian mountains and as pastor in the fourth city of the Union would seem to be a providential fitting for the varied opportunities offered by your church, city and Synod.

Fourth. Yours seemed to be the greater need. I have not interpreted the path of duty to lie along the line of least resistance. Your call appeals to my consecration and my ordination vows, while the appeal to remain here at Central is to my sentiment, ambition and pride. To remain here was to arrest my spiritual growth by refusing to practice what I have constantly preached. By coming to you I shall continue to confidently claim the favor of him who came "not to be ministered unto, but to minister and to give his life" for others.

This is not a half-hearted acceptance. It carries with it every bit of strength of body, mind and soul I possess. I purpose coming to you by the help of God in the fullness of the gospel of Christ, to spend and be spent in the glorious service of making Christ supreme in everything everywhere.

It will be my endeavor to preach a full-orbed gospel, without veneer or varnish and to lead you into a closer walk with God and into ways of kindly ministry to the needs of the world.

As you have had a large place in your hearts of love and loyalty for other pastors, so I hope you will find some place for the stranger and his family who are soon to come among you.

Trusting you will be much in prayer for me, my ministry among you and the precious people I am leaving, and wishing you grace, mercy and peace, I am, in bonds of Christian love,

Your pastor-elect,

(Signed) J. Layton Mauze.

The church furnished two very large and appreciative audiences Sunday and they heard two magnificent sermons. There were added to the church forty-one at the morning service and two at the evening, some by letter and some on profession of their faith in Jesus Christ as their individual and personal Saviour. Our people are more than pleased. They are delighted, and ready to lend a helping hand, and we are praying that the Lord's work will prosper in our midst under the leadership of our new pastor. We believe that we recognize the voice of the Shepherd and we propose to follow wherever he leads.

Our congregation was delighted to have with us on Dr. Mauze's first Sunday our former beloved pastor, the Rev. Dr. Newton Donaldson, who was on a visit from Cleveland. We were much pleased at his recovery of health and vigor. He is filling the pulpit of a deceased pastor and turning the salary over to the widow and children of the deceased.

C. W. Campbell.

Greenbrier Presbytery: At an adjourned meeting held at Union, W. Va., June 2, 1917, Licentiate Robert R. Gray was examined for ordination, and on Sunday, June 3rd, he was ordained and installed as pastor of the Union and Carmel churches by a commission appointed by the Presbytery for this purpose. Mr. Gray enters upon this work with earnestness and zeal, and he has the confidence and co-operation of an appreciative people. It is expected that there will be a steady and marked growth and great fruitfulness from the combined efforts of pastor and people in these churches.

J. M. Sloan, S. C.

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SURVEY OF CURRENT EVENTS

THE WAR.

General Pershing, who is to command our troops in France, and his staff have reached London and have been given an enthusiastic reception. He has gone to make all necessary preparations for the reception of our troops when they are sent over. The allies are very much delighted with the prospect of having our men to help in the battles against our common enemy.

Our navy has sent a number of vessels to the other side of the Atlantic to aid in overcoming the submarine menace, but where they are or how many have been sent is not known. Some of them convoyed through the danger zone the ship which carried General Pershing to England.

By the time this paper reaches our readers it is probable that our commission to Russia will have reached Petrograd. They landed at Vladovostock on June 3rd, and it requires about ten or twelve days to make the long railroad trip across Siberia and Russia.

It is hoped that this commission will be able to do much in getting things straightened out in that country, where everything has been in a very unsettled state since the revolu-

tion. A few days ago it looked as though anarchy was about to break loose. The Soldier's and Workmen's Council seemed to be leading in the trouble. This is said to have been a self-appointed body, claiming to represent the workmen and soldiers of the empire who, they said, were unwilling to continue the war any longer. But this Council has surrendered to the government and have come to some agreement with it, so that it looks as though the threatened

(Continued on page 16)



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